1.   (once amended) A method for accessing a specific instance associated with a programmable logic controller coupled to an operating system, wherein said specific instance is not registered with said operating system such that a server of said operating system is not able to normally access said specific instance using a registration of said operating system, wherein said specific instance has specific parameters that differentiate said specific instance from other instances, the method comprising the steps of:

determining that said specific instance is not registered with the operating system; and

registering said specific instance with said operating system such that said specific instance, which was previously not registered with said operating system such that said server was not able to normally access said specific instance, is accessible by said server by checking said operation system's registration.

3.   (once amended) The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of remotely coupling said programmable logic controller to said operating system.

4.   (once amended) The method according to claim 3, wherein said step of remotely coupling couples said programmable logic controller to said operating system over the internet.

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in light of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks. Claims 1 and 3 have been amended to correct clerical errors and/or to focus on embodiments of current licensing interest.

I. Claims 1 and 3 Have Sufficient Antecedent Basis

Claims 1 and 3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, as lacking sufficient antecedent basis. These rejections are respectfully traversed. Claims 1 and 3 have sufficient antecedent basis. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.